

Amendment to the Specification:

Please replace the equation on page 6, lines 3 and 4 with the following amended equation:

$$w(z) = \begin{cases} w_k & , \text{ for } z < z_k \\ w_k \sqrt{1 + [\alpha(z - z_k)]^2} & , \text{ for } z \geq z_k \end{cases} ; \alpha = \frac{(\lambda/n_{\text{eff}})}{\pi w_o^2} \quad \text{E2}$$

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